

# Hills has plethora of programs in progress for upcoming year

## CABLE CONNECTION



MARY LINDA CALDERONE

The year 1997 was a busy one for the City of Farmington Hills Video Production Division. Video Production Supervisor David Tietmeyer says, "Last year we completed 182 programs — an all time high for the division. This comes to two new programs a week."

And, in 1998, Channel 8 viewers can look for an even greater expansion of the program line-up. Four new series are premiering in February: "Teen-Age," "People and Places — Farmington Hills History," "Business Beat" and "Farmington Hills Artists in Residence."

"Teen-Age" is a program

which will be produced by teenagers for teenagers. This will be accomplished through Farmington Hills Youth Centers and the show will highlight issues and concerns that directly affect our teenage population. The concept of the program is the brainchild of Harrison High freshman David Kishner.

"Farmington Hills People and Places" is a program initiated by the Historical Commission. Viewers will take a close look at the many historical sites in Farmington Hills.

There are about 75 historical homes in our area. Ruth Mochman and other members of the Commission will walk us through some of the sites.

"Business Beat" will cover unique businesses, products and services in the area. New Economic Development Coordinator Teri Arbenowski will host the program.

If you own a business in the

Hills and see yourself as being on the cutting edge of technology, please don't hesitate to call David Tietmeyer at 473-9561.

Local talent in the arts will be showcased on "Farmington Hills Artists in Residence." All disciplines will be covered — music, dance, sculpture, etc. We may even see some "how to" programs. Cultural Arts Coordinator Sally Le Pla-Perry will host the shows.

So tune into the new program line-up. Make Channel 8 your information station by bringing government into your living rooms.

Mary Linda Calderone is media relations coordinator for the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission.

The next SWOCC meeting is at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at Noon. The next CAC meeting is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10 at SWOCC.

# Wal-Mart manages to ease its way into Commerce Township

BY JENNIFER PLACINTO  
STAFF WRITER

Retail giant Wal-Mart almost lost its footing in Commerce Township after nearly a year of working out the details.

An easement agreement will allow access to the final piece of land needed to build a service roadway in front of the store. But the 150-foot wide by 600-foot parcel will also provide access to a neighboring undeveloped commercial parcel to the west — something two township trustees weren't comfortable with.

"Personally, I think we're getting ahead of ourselves granting the easement when we don't know what's going to go in there," said Robert J. Long, trustee.

The parcel, located along the north side of Pontiac Trail just west of Haggerty Road, is owned by the Huron Clinton Metroparks Authority.

"It was my understanding that

we were only asking Huron Clinton to provide easement to the Wal-Mart property," said Susan Gross, treasurer. The easement agreement was approved, 5-2, with Gross and Long opposed.

Marty Stoneman, a partner in Pontiac/Haggerty Investment Group, owners of the westerly 5-acre parcel, said the land would've been boxed in by the big box retailer if the township had forbidden access to the easement.

"We're looking at it for commercial development, but our condition was that we wouldn't sell to Wal-Mart if our last 5 acres were landlocked," Stoneman said.

The easement has been a key point in the agreement between the township and Wal-Mart developers. Because it was needed by Wal-Mart, township officials were able to request the national retailer make some aesthetic changes to the exterior of

the building so it would blend with surrounding businesses.

Stoneman helped township officials with the new Wal-Mart design.

"When Wal-Mart first came in, it was not anything close to what was ultimately approved by the township," Stoneman said. "We did everything we could to assist the township behind the scenes ... to enhance the architectural integrity of what was being built."

"We got what we asked for and we should approve it," said Daniel Munro, trustee. "I don't think we want to be in a position where someday we ask McDonald's to have blue arches," he said referring to restricting access to the easement.

The 121,839-square foot store, which is expected to be open in the fall, will be located on the north side of Pontiac Trail west of Haggerty where Walnut Lake Road intersects.

## RECREATION NEWS

Each week the Recreation Division of the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services presents a synopsis of upcoming activities. For further information regarding programs, contact the recreation office at 473-9570. Pre-registration is required for most activities.

**OPEN SKATE**  
The Ice Arena is open for skating. Fee is \$3 for Farmington Hills residents and \$5 for non-residents. Skate rental is \$2 per person. A concession stand is also open. For specific days and hours call 478-8800.

**DOWNHILL SKIING**  
The Farmington Hills Recreation Division is offering a complete Downhill Ski Program for all participants, fourth grade through high school, each Friday night at Mt. Brighton. The bus will leave designated locations at 4:30 p.m. and return at approximately 10 p.m. Fee is \$50 for a two-week session. The fee includes lift ticket, ski lessons and bus transportation. The \$11.50 ski rental is not included and will be collected on the bus. Call 473-9570 for exact dates and departure sites.

**DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE**  
Dads, don't pass up this opportunity for a fun-filled evening with your daughter(s) from 7-8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, and Saturday, Feb. 7. The price is \$16 per couple. Registration deadline is Friday, Jan. 30, at the Special Services office.

**ADULT SOFTBALL**  
The Farmington Hills Recreation Division will take new team registration for men's, women's and co-ed softball starting Monday, Feb. 2. Call 473-9570.

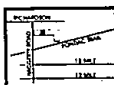
## WINTER CLEARANCE SALE

# 1/2 OFF

### 1/2 OFF OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WINTER FASHIONS



SPRING '98 GOLF & CRUISEWEAR ARRIVING DAILY



**WEST WIND LAKE VILLAGE**  
4775 HAGGERTY ROAD  
AT PONTIAC TRAIL  
WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI 48323  
(248) 868-1875



**NEWBURGH PLAZA**  
8700 E. 9TH AVE. ROAD  
AT NEWBURGH ROAD  
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150  
(313) 887-2144

SAVINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES. IN-STORE MARKDOWNS HAVE BEEN TAKEN. NO ADJUSTMENTS TO PREVIOUS PURCHASES. 1/2 OFF MERCHANDISE. FINAL SALE ONLY. ALTERATIONS AT COST. NO CASH. ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

# My Health. My Needs. My Hospital.

"The women's programs at St. Mary Hospital meet all my needs."

My doctor said I needed a few tests, and told me about St. Mary Hospital's new Marian Women's Center. It's close to home, and the staff is committed to keeping women healthy. I found a warm, caring atmosphere designed to help women feel comfortable.

The Center provides education and support programs for women of all ages. Diagnostic testing like mammography, radiology, and ultrasound are also available, as well as a complete breast health clinic.

The Marian Women's Center, adjacent to the new Miracle of Life Maternity Center, provides



family services like childbirth education, a breastfeeding program, and even pre- and postnatal exercise classes.

We're planning to start a family soon, and all the programs I need are now available close to home.

My mother was interested in the Marian Women's Center menopause support group, which educates women and removes some of the mystery about this time of life.

And, if I want more information about health topics concerning women, I can attend specialized seminars throughout the year.

The Marian Women's Center cares about women. That's why St. Mary Hospital is my hospital.



**St. Mary Hospital**  
36475 Five Mile Road  
Livonia, MI 48154

Affiliated with William Beaumont Hospital

Physician Referral Service

1-888-464-WELL

Marian Women's Center

1-800-494-1615

Visit St. Mary via Internet  
<http://www.stmaryhospital.org>

# Speaking of Love...

Roses are red, Violets are blue...

Complete this message and win a romantic evening for two!

A night at the Marriott goes to the winner, including a movie, gifts and a dinner.

Ten more poets and their Valentine, we'll send to a movie and out to dine.

On the 12th of February the winners appear, in the Observer & Eccentric for their sweetheart to cheer.

And speaking of sweethearts, in case you forgot... Come to Laurel Park Place for the place to shop!

Come to Laurel Park Place to pick up your entry form at any participating store.

**Laurel Park Place**

For the Perfect Valentine Gift... Spend a Day at the Park! Featuring Jacobson's, Parisian and seventy specialty stores all waiting to be discovered. Monday-Saturday, 10am-9pm • Sunday, Noon-6pm West Six Mile & Newburgh Roads • Livonia (734) 462-1100

THE  
**Observer & Eccentric**  
NEWSPAPERS

